not from Siam, as erroneously stated by Hume." Mr. Hume (Str. F. 1874, p. 471) distinctly states that Mr. Elliot's bird was discovered by M. Germain in Cochin China, and I am not aware that Mr. Hume ever made mention of the type of *G. erythropygius* of Elliot having come from Siam.

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## XIV.—*On a Collection of Birds from the Island of Paláwan.*

By R. Bowdler Sharpe, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

(Plates III., IV.)

My friend Mr. John Whitehead has sent a fine collection of birds as the result of his expedition to Paláwan. He was unsuccessful in getting far into the interior of the island, and was therefore obliged to collect in the neighbourhood of Puerto Princesa, which had been the scene of the labours of Professor Steere and of Mr. Everett. It is sufficient to state that Mr. Whitehead has obtained examples of every species but one met with in Paláwan by the before-mentioned naturalists, and Mr. Lempriere also; while he has added to the list 60 species previously unrecorded from Paláwan, thus nearly doubling the known avifauna of the island. Out of 129 species now enumerated from the island, no less than 35 are peculiar to Paláwan, and of the rest 14 are found in the Philippines, but not in Borneo; while 33 are known from Borneo, but have not been recorded from the Philippines. The presence in Mr. Whitehead's collection of a *Cryptolopha*, almost, if not quite identical with *C. montis* of Kina Balu, indicates that there may be an unexpected affinity between the mountain fauna of Paláwan and North Borneo, and it will be rash to generalize upon our present information as to the zoo-geographical relations of the island.

The following I believe to be a complete list of the birds now known to inhabit Paláwan. Those peculiar to the island are marked with a dagger (†), and the letter "[B.]" or "[P.]" indicates the Bornean or Philippine habitat of the species, so as to give some idea of the relations of the avifauna to that of the neighbouring groups. I have also added an indication of the collector by the aid of initials—"[S.]" standing for Mr. J. B. Steere, "[E.]" for Mr. Alfred Everett, "[L.]" for Mr. Everard Lempriere, and "[W.]" for Mr. John Whitehead.

1. [P.] Cacatua hæmaturopygia. [L., W.]

2. [P.] Tanygnathus luzonensis. [E., L., W.]

3. † Prioniturus cyaneiceps, sp. n.

Similis *P. discuro*, sed pileo toto et cervice cum capitis lateribus viridi-cyaneis; gutture toto, pectore et abdomine viridi-cyaneo lavatis.

*Adult male.* General colour above grass-green, becoming clearer green on the lower back and rump, and decidedly brighter on the upper tail-coverts; curious dusky frecklings are seen on the feathers in a strong light; wing-coverts green, the median and greater coverts a little brighter; bastard-wing and primary-coverts green, with a bluish tinge internally; quills black, externally green, subterminally with a blue shade, and fringed with yellow, the first primary externally blue; two centre tail-feathers bright green, with a black shaft and racket at the end, which is black edged with green; remainder green, internally blue, and with a broad band of black at the ends; tail blue underneath; entire head and nape, as well as the sides of the face, ear-coverts, cheeks, throat and sides of neck verditer-blue, overspreading the under surface of the body, which is otherwise light green, but yellow towards the vent and under tail-coverts, the latter being yellow washed with green; under wing-coverts and axillaries bright green; lower primary-coverts and inner web of quills pale blue, blackish externally and at the tips of the primaries. Total length 12·4 inches, culmen 0·8, wing 6·1, tail 2·8, long feathers 5·6, tarsus 0·5.

*Young* birds differ from the adult in being entirely green, without any of the beautiful verditer-blue shade on the head and neck; the wing-coverts and secondaries edged with yellowish green; under surface of body pale green, yellower on the throat, and bright yellow on the under tail-coverts, washed with pale green.

Mr. Whitehead procured a large series of this new Parrakeet.

4. [B., P.] Astur trivirgatus. [W.]

5. [B.] Spizaetus limnaetus. [W.]

6. [B., P.] Butastur indicus. [E., W.]

7. [B., P.] Haliaetus leucogaster. [W.]

8. Spilornis, sp.

A wing only sent. It is too large for *S. pallidus,* and yet does not belong to *S. holospilus;* it may belong to a bird distinct from both.

9. [B., P.] Pernis ptilonorhynchus. [W.]

10. [B., P.] Falco peregrinus. [W.]

Mr. Whitehead states in a letter to me that he noticed a Peregrine on the island. He also saw a Harrier, which he believes to have been *Circus spilonotus.*

[B., P.] Pandion haliaetus. [W.]

Seen, but not obtained.

11. † Baza leucopias, sp. n.

*Juv.* Similis *B. sumatrensi,* jr., sed subtus alba; linea mediana gutturali nulla, abdomine minime transfasciato distinguenda.

*Young female.* General colour above brown, with whitish-brown margins to the feathers; lesser wing-coverts brown, the inner ones rufous, with brown centres; median and greater coverts pale rufous, white externally towards the ends and round the tips; bastard-wing dark brown, externally rufous; primary-coverts uniform dark brown; quills dark brown, fringed with white round the ends, and crossed with blackish-brown bars, four in number, one subterminal; secondaries paler brown, externally rufous; upper tail-coverts tawny rufous, edged with white and with dark brown centres; tail-feathers dark brown, narrowly fringed with white at the ends, and crossed with blackish bands, the subterminal one very broad, but not nearly so wide as the preceding interspace; a crest of white feathers, the long ones freckled with brown; head, nape and hind neck, lores, sides of face, ear-coverts, cheeks, sides of neck, and entire under surface of body pure white, slightly washed with rufous on the head and hind neck; the breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts washed with creamy buff; the sides of body and flanks with slight indications of spots of pale tawny buff; under wing-coverts and axillaries like the breast; quills below ashy grey, with blackish bars on the primaries. Total length 15·5 inches, culmen 1·15, wing 10·8, tail 7·0, tarsus 1·4.

The typical specimen, though manifestly immature, differs thoroughly from the young of *B. sumatrensis*, and I feel sure that the adult bird, when discovered, will be markedly distinct.

12. † SYRNIUM WHITEHEADI, sp. n. (Plate III.)

*S.* similis *S. sinensi*, sed subtus minime albo trasfasciatum.

*Adult male.* General colour above chocolate-brown, spotted with white, the spots arranged in pairs, the one on the inner web often fulvescent; scapulars forming a light patch of tawny buff, covered with narrow bars of chocolate-brown; lesser wing-coverts dark chocolate-brown, with scarcely any white spots; median and greater coverts more reddish chocolate-brown, transversely barred with white, slightly tinged with tawny buff; bastard-wing and primary-coverts uniform blackish brown; quills brown, crossed with lighter and more rufous-brown bars, whiter near the edge, especially of the secondaries, which are slightly freckled externally; the innermost secondaries spotted with white, like the back; upper tail-coverts like the back, but barred with tawny buff or whitish; tail-feathers dark chocolate-brown, barred with tawny buff or creamy white, with which the tail is conspicuously tipped, the light bars, seven in number, on the centre feathers, broader and coalescing on the remainder; crown of head like the back, thickly spotted with white, the spots arranged in pairs; feathers of the hind neck with concealed bases of tawny buff; the mantle somewhat more uniform brown; sides of face chestnut, deeper about the eyes and on the ear-coverts, which are whiter posteriorly; ruff dark chocolate-brown, barred across with rufous; chin rufous, followed by a broad white patch, narrowly barred with black; remainder of under surface of body tawny rufous, narrowly barred across with blackish brown, including the thighs and under tail-coverts; fore neck with broad bands of white and chocolate-brown; under wing-coverts and axillaries like the breast; quills below dusky brown, barred with yellowish buff, these bars broader towards the base of the inner web. Total length 17·5 inches, culmen 1·35, wing 13, tail 7·5, tarsus 2·3.

Of this fine Owl Mr. Whitehead obtained several specimens. Its nearest ally is *Syrnium sinense,* but it is easily distinguished from that species by its rufescent under surface, with the absence of white bars.

13. † SCOPS FULIGINOSA, sp. n.

*S.* similis *S. umbratili,* sed multo minor et omnino saturate brunnea, modo Scopino vermiculata et notata, sed regione auriculari rufo-brunnea concolore, et fasciis frontalibus et cervicalibus pallidis obsoletis.

The above diagnosis well expresses the relations of this dark-coloured Scops Owl, which is more dingy in colour than any species I know.

14. † THRIPONAX HARGITTI. [S., L., W.]

15. † CHRYSOCOLAPTES ERYTHROCEPHALUS. [S., E., L., W.]

16. † TIGA EVERETTI. [S., E., L., W.]

17. [B.] MUELLERIPICUS PULVERULENTUS. [W.]

18. [B., P.] EURYSTOMUS ORIENTALIS. [E., W.]

19. [B.] ALCEDO BENGALENSIS. [L., W.]

20. [B.] ALCEDO ASIATICA. [W.]

21. [B.] PELARGOPSIS LEUCOCEPHALA. [S., L., W.]

22. [B.] CEYX RUFIDORSA. [L., W.]

23. [B.] HALCYON PILEATA. [W.]

24. [B., P.] HALCYON COROMANDA. [W.]

25. [B., P.] HALCYON CHLORIS. [W.]

26. † Anthracoceros lemprieri. [L., W.]

27. [B.] Chætura gigantea. [W.]

28. [P.] Collocalia troglodytes. [W.]

29. [B., P.] Collocalia fuciphaga. [W.]

30. [B.] Batrachostomus cornutus. [W.]

31. [B.] Caprimulgus macrurus. [W.]

32. [B.] Cuculus sonneratii. [W.]

33. [B., P.] Cacomantis merulinus. [E.]

34. [B.] Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus. [W.]

35. [B.] Surniculus lugubris. [E., W.]

36. [B.] Eudynamis malayana. [W.]

37. † Dryococcyx harringtoni. [S., E., L., W.]

38. [B.] Centrococcyx eurycercus. [E., W.]

39. [B.] Centrococcyx affinis. [W.]

40. [B., P.] Lanius luzionensis. [E., W.]

41. [B.] Graucalus sumatrensis. [S., E., L., W.]

42. [B.] Pericrocotus igneus. [S., L., W.]

43. [B., P.] Pericrocotus cinereus. [L., W.]

44. † Hyloterpe whiteheadi, sp. n.

*H.* affinis *H. grisolæ,* sed supra olivascenti-brunnea, pileo dorsoque concoloribus; tectricibus alarum cinerascenti-brunneis nec rufescenti-brunneis distinguenda.

*Adult female.* General colour above dingy mouse-brown, the head like the back; wing-coverts rather more ashy than the back; bastard-wing and primary-coverts brown; quills dark brown, edged with ashy brown, the secondaries margined with rufous towards the ends; upper tail-coverts and tail-feathers ashy brown; lores and feathers round the eye ashy grey; ear-coverts brown, like the head; cheeks ashy grey, as also the throat and breast, the latter slightly washed with brown; lower breast and abdomen white; sides of body and flanks somewhat washed with ashy; thighs white, with ashy bases; under tail-coverts white; under wing-coverts and axillaries white, with ashy bases; quills below dusky, ashy along the inner edge. Total length 5·7 inches, culmen 0·65, wing 3·15, tail 2·3, tarsus 0·75.

45. † Chibia palawanensis. [E., L., W.]

46. [B.] Buchanga leucophæa. [S., E., L., W.]

47. [P.] Rhipidura nigritorquis. [S., W.]

48. † Siphia lemprieri. [E., L., W.]

49. † Siphia erithacus, sp. n. (Plate. IV. fig. 2.)

*Adult male.* General colour above rufous brown, with a slight olivaceous tinge; lesser wing-coverts like the back; median coverts, greater coverts, bastard-wing, primary-coverts, and quills blackish brown, more or less broadly edged with the same colour as the back, a little more rufous on the latter; upper tail-coverts and tail-feathers bright chestnut; crown of head like the back, slightly washed with olive; lores ashy grey; feathers round the eye dusky; ear-coverts olive-brown, washed with tawny; cheeks, throat, and chest orange-rufous; breast and abdomen pure white, as well as the sides of body and flanks; thighs dusky brown; under tail-coverts pale tawny rufous; under wing-coverts and axillaries white; quills below dusky, whitish along their inner edge. Total length 4·2 inches, culmen 0·55, wing 2·35, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·8.

*Adult female.* Similar to the male, but with the lores more tawny. Total length 4·2 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·25, tail 1·5, tarsus 0·7.

50. [P.] Xantholestes panayensis. [W.]

Although I have not had a specimen of *X. panayensis* from Panay to compare, the type being in Prof. Steere's collection in America, I believe that the single specimen in Mr. Whitehead's consignment must belong to the Panay species, though of course direct comparison is desirable.

51. [P.] Cryptolopha montis. [W.]

Only a single specimen, which appears to be identical with the type of *C. montis* from Kina Balu.

52. [B.] Muscicapa manillensis. [W.]

The late Lord Tweeddale and Dr. Oustalet believed that *M. manillensis* (Bp.) is different from *M. griseisticta* of Swinhoe. I must say that the Philippine specimens that I have examined fail to confirm this supposition.

53. [B., P.] Hypothymis azurea. [E., W.]

54. † Zeocephus cyanescens. [S., L., W.]

55. [B., P.] Hirundo rustica. [W.]

56. [B., P.] Hirundo javanica. [E., L., W.]

57. † Oriolus palawanensis. [E., L., W.]

58. [B.] Oriolus xanthonotus. [E., W.]

59. [P.] Pitta sordida. [S., L., W.]

60. [P.] Pitta erythrogastra. [W.]

61. † Turdinus rufifrons. [E., W.]

62. † Mixornis woodi. [S., E., W.]

63. † Anuropsis cinereiceps. [E., L., W.]

64. † Ptilocichla falcata. [S., W.]

65. † Irena tweeddalii. [S., L., W.]

66. † Pycnonotus cinereifrons. [E., W.]

67. † Phyllornis palawanensis. [S., E., W.]

68. [B.] Ægithina viridis. [S., E., W.]

69. [B.] Micropus melanocephalus. [E., W.]

70. † Iole striaticeps, sp. n.

*I.* similis *I. viridescenti,* sed magis brunnea, cauda pallide rufescente, pileo brunnescente, anguste grisco lineato, et dorso vix striolato, facie laterali grisescenti-olivacea, angustissime albido striolata distinguenda.

*Adult female.* General colour above olive-brown, with narrow whitish shaft-streaks to the feathers of the mantle and back; the lower back and rump uniform, the feathers of the latter very loose and fluffy and with pale tips; lesser wing-coverts brown, with a wash of olive; bastard-wing and primary-coverts dusky brown, with a reddish tinge and washed with olive externally; quills dark brown, externally pale olive-brown, rather more rufous towards the base of the secondaries; upper tail-coverts and tail-feathers light reddish brown, with a slight edging of olive; crown of head brown, slightly contrasting with the back, all the feathers with narrow ashy white shaft-streaks; lores white, with a yellowish tinge; feathers below the eye and ear-coverts light brown, washed with yellow and having narrow whitish shaft-streaks; cheeks and under surface of body ashy white, with a strong tinge of yellow, the breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts clearer yellow; sides of body and flanks washed with olive-brown; thighs pale yellow; under wing-coverts and axillaries pale yellow; quills below dusky brown, yellowish along the edge of the inner web. Total length 6·6 inches, culmen 0·7, wing 3·2, tail 2·75, tarsus 0·75.

71. † CRINIGER FRATER. [S., E., W.]

72. † CRINIGER PALAWANENSIS. [E., W.]

73. [B., P.] MONTICOLA SOLITARIA. [E., W.]

74. † CITTOCINCLA NIGRA. [S., E., W.]

75. [B., P.] PHYLLOSCOPUS BOREALIS. [W.]

76. [B., P.] CISTICOLA CISTICOLA. [W.]

77. [B.] ORTHOTOMUS RUFICEPS. [S., E., W.]

78. [B., P.] MOTACILLA FLAVA. [W.]

79. [B., P.] ANTHUS GUSTAVI. [W.]

80. [B., P.] ANTHUS MACULATUS. [E.]

81. [P.] PARUS ELEGANS. [S., W.]

82. [B.] DENDROPHILA FRONTALIS. [S., W.]

83. [P.] MYZANTHE PYGMÆA. [E., W.]

84. † PRIONOCHILUS JOHANNÆ, sp. n. (Plate IV., fig. 1.)

*P.* similis *P. xanthopygio,* sed mento et fascia supragenali albis distinguendus.

*Adult male.* General colour above dark slaty blue, with a broad band of yellow across the rump; wing-coverts like the back; bastard-wing, primary-coverts, and quills blackish, edged with slate-blue; upper tail-coverts slate-blue; tail-feathers black, with slate-blue margins; crown of head dark slaty blue, with a large patch of scarlet in the centre of the hinder crown; sides of face, ear-coverts, sides of neck, and des of upper breast slate-blue, with a distinct white cheek-stripe, followed by a line of slate-blue along the sides of the throat, and joined to the hinder cheeks and ear-coverts; chin whitish; remainder of under surface bright yellow, the chest with a scarlet patch in the centre; abdomen and sides of vent and under tail-coverts yellowish white; sides of body and flanks yellow, with a greenish tinge; thighs slate-grey; under wing-coverts and axillaries white; quills below black, white along the inner edge. Total length 3·4 inches, culmen 0·45, wing 2, tail 1·05, tarsus 0·55.

85. [P.] Cinnyris sperata. [E. W.]
86. † Cinnyris aurora. [E., L., W.]
87. [B.] Chalcostetha insignis. [E., W.]
88. † Æthopyga shelleyi. [S., E., W.]
89. [B.] Anthreptes malaccensis. [S., E., W.]
90. † Arachnothera dilutior. [S., E., W.]
91. † Corone pusilla. [E., L., W.]
92. [P.] Calornis panayensis. [S., E., L., W.]
93. [B.] Eulabes javanensis. [S., E., L., W.]
94. † Oxycerca everetti. [S., E., W.]
95. [B.] Munia atricapilla. [W.]
96. [B., P.] Osmotreron vernans. [E., W.]
97. [B.] Treron nasica. [S., E., W.]
98. [B., P.] Carpophaga ænea. [S., E., L., W.*]
99. [B., P.] Ptilopus melanocephalus. [L., W.]

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* Mr. Whitehead also saw a white Pigeon, doubtless *Carpophaga bicolor*.

100. [B., P.] Chalcophaps indica. [S., W.]

101. [B.] Turtur tigrina. [W.]

102. [P.] Macropygia tenuirostris. [W.]

103. † Polyplectrum napoleonis. [E., W.]

104. [B.] Megapodius cumingi. [E., L., W.]

105. [P.] Turnix nigrescens. [W.]

Mr. Ogilvie Grant, who has paid some attention to the small Game Birds, says that the Paláwan birds are identical with the typical examples of *T. nigrescens* of Tweeddale, but he is inclined to doubt whether they ought not all to be united to *T. fasciata*.

106. [B., P.] Ægialitis geoffroyi. [E., L., W.]

107. [B., P.] Ægialitis cantianus. [E., W.]

108. [B., P.] Ægialitis peroni. [L.]

109. [B., P.] Ægialitis dubia. [W.]

110. [B., P.] Strepsilas interpres. [W.]

111. [B.] Esacus magnirostris. [W.]

112. [B., P.] Glareola orientalis. [W.]

113. Numenius lineatus. [W.]*

114. [B., P.] Tringoides hypoleucus. [E., W.]

115. [B., P.] Totanus calidris. [W.]

116. [B., P.] Totanus brevipes. [W.]

117. [B., P.] Totanus glareola. [W.]

118. [B., P.] Terekia cinerea. [W.]

119. [B., P.] Tringa ruficollis. [W.]

120. [B., P.] Gallinago australis. [W.]

121. [B., P.] Gallinago fasciata. [W.]

122. [B., P.] Herodias intermedia. [W.]

123. [B.] Ardea sumatrana. [W.]

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* Whimbrels were also seen by Mr. Whitehead.

124. [B., P.] Butorides javanica. [E., W.]
125. [B., P.] Gorsachius melanolophus. [W.]
126. [B., P.] Sterna bergii. [W.]
127. Sterna sinensis. [W.]
128. [B., P.] Hydrochelidon hybrida. [W.]
129. Fregata minor. [W.]

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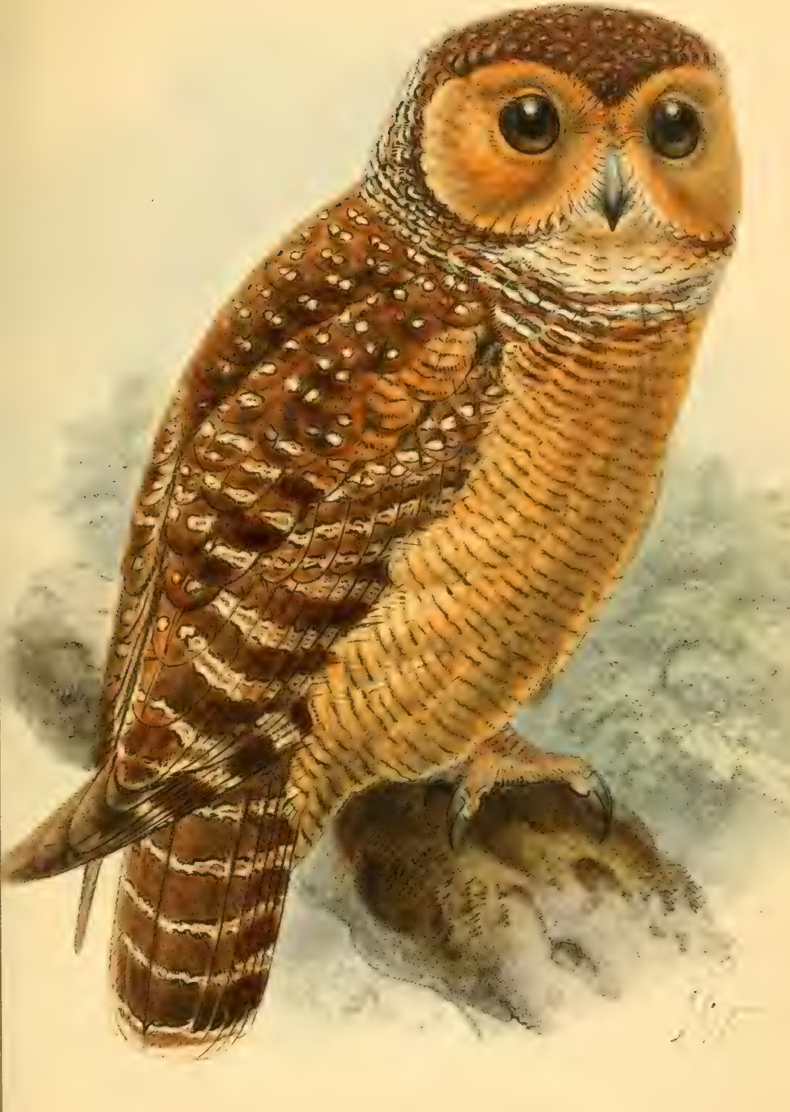
## XV.—*The Polar Origin of Life considered in its bearing on the Distribution and Migration of Birds.*—Part II. By H. B. Tristram, D.D., F.R.S.

[Continued from 'The Ibis,' 1887, p. 242.]

In suggesting the theory that the Polar origin of life affords a key to the various problems connected with the distribution and migration of birds, I do not think it necessary to go further than I have already done into the question of past changes in the eccentricity of the earth's orbit, since no such change is required to account for the existing conditions of life; and in this, as in every other unsolved problem, the simplest explanation generally proves the best. Nor does it seem to me that we need speculate on the question of various recurring glacial epochs in order to explain the phenomena we encounter. I do not deny the existence of such alternating periods of heat and cold; I merely mean that their introduction as postulates is not required for our present purpose.

I may refer to the summary in my first paper (Ibis, 1887, p. 236), for which I am indebted to Mr. Scribner and Col. Feilden, of the propositions as to the origin of life at the Poles—the first portions of our cooling globe capable of maintaining life. It is, moreover, important to divest our minds of the popular notion that identical or similar forms of life in geologic periods were synchronous. There is abundant evidence, for example, that the Miocene flora of Germany, though in many, or perhaps all, its species iden-



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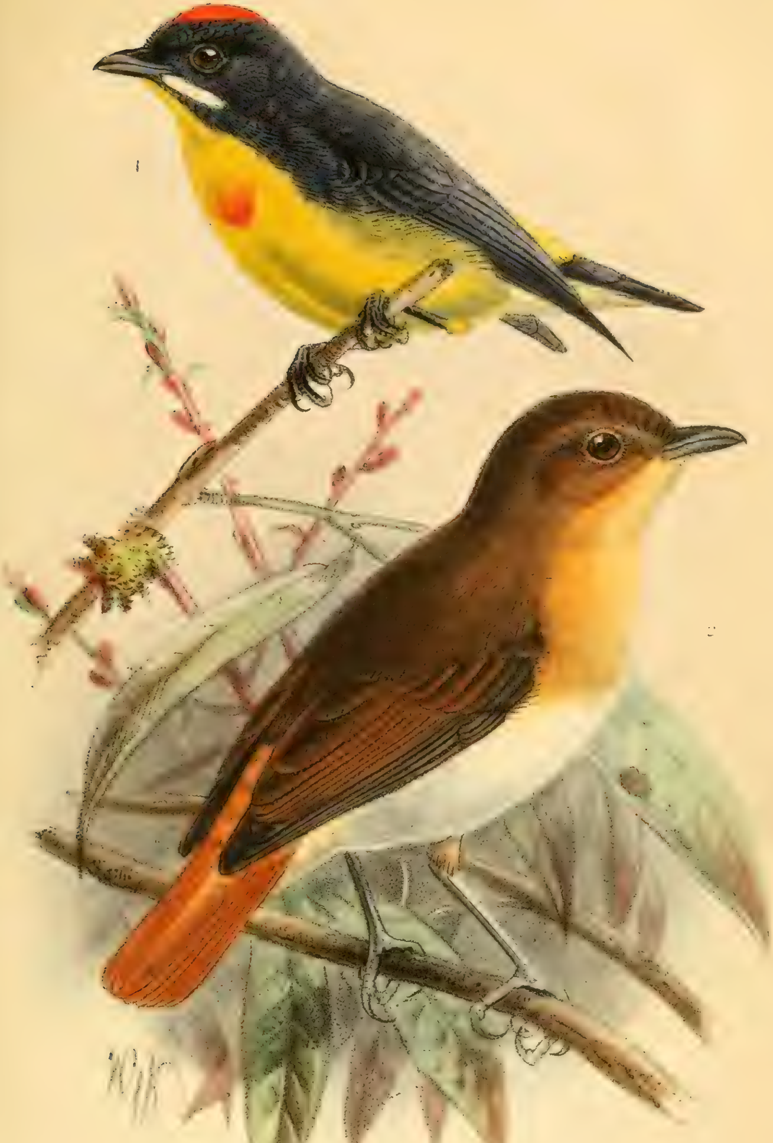
SYRNIUM WHITEHEADI



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1. PRIONOCHILUS JOHANNÆ
2. SIPHIA ERITHACUS